**Crime by Dacoits in M.P., U.P. and Rajasthan**

†1392. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a lot of incidents of kidnapping by dacoits are taking place now a days in the border areas of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan;

(b) the total number of kidnappings which have taken place between August, 1999 and January, 2000 and the State-wise number of cases registered against them; and

(c) the steps taken by the Central Government to stop dacoities, to provide safety to the scared citizens and to stop such criminal incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Deteriorating Security Scenario in J and K**

1393. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while Prime Minister convened a high level meeting on Kashmir on 17th January, 2000 to discus security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir after the killing of National Conference leader Mr. Gulam, Qadir Bhatt and his son and nephew;

(b) if so, what suggestions and observations were made at the meeting and decision taken therein; and

(c) the steps since taken to check such deteriorating security scenario in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The Prime Minister had

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

convened a High level meeting on Kashmir on 17th January, 2000 to discuss Security Scenario in Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) During the meeting, it was decided, *inter-alia*, that, as a part of strategy to effectively counter terrorism in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, it was imperative to raise more specialised forces of the Central Para Military Forces specifically trained for waging counter terrorist operations and also to enhance deployment along the LoC/ IB and depth areas. In order to ensure greater synergise of operations amongst various security forces and intelligence agencies, it was decided to divide the CI grid into Sectors as part of a three-tier command and control structure under the UHQ. It was also decided to set-up an additional UHQ for areas north of Zojila. While the State Police and the Intelligence apparatus is alerady being strengthened, security forces have been asked to adopt a proactive approach against the terrorists in the hinterland and to establish area domination both during day and night. Security in Srinagar city has been beefed up and the security forces have been asked to carry out round-the-clock operations based upon pin-pointed intelligence to neutralise terrorist modules in the Border. For protection of civilian population, it has been decided to integrate the Village Defence Committees with the CI grid and to provide them with sophisticated arms and modern communication equipment.

(c) To curb terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, the Government has adopted a multi pronged approach which includes, *inter-alia*, strengthening border management, neutralising plans of the militants by pro-active action against them in the hinterland.